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# THE MORNING NEWS

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## Nigerian 'underwear bomber' gets life in US prison

DETROIT (AFP) - The Nigerian "underwear bomber" who tried to blow up a packed airliner on Christmas Day 2009 must spend the rest of his life behind bars, a US judge ruled yesterday.

Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, 25, pleaded guilty in October to eight charges, including the attempted murder of 289 people on board Detroit-bound Northwest Airlines Flight 253.

"The defendant has stated and it is clear that he has enormous motivation to carry out another terrorist attack," Judge Nancy Edmunds said. "This court has no ability to control the defendant's motivation, which does appear to be unchanged, however I can control the defendant's opportunity to carry out those actions."

The botched attack, which

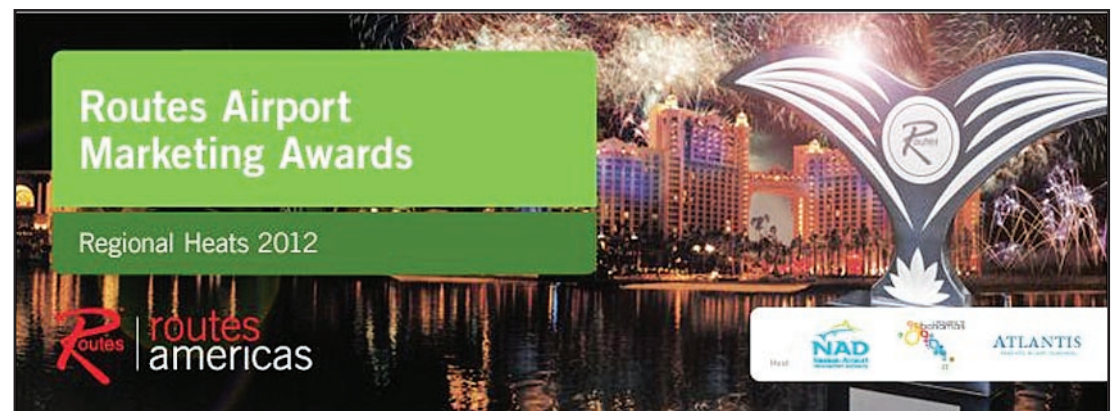
prosecutors say was a plot hatched by slain Al-Qaeda preacher Anwar al-Awlaqi, sparked global alarm and caused the United States to tighten up both its no-fly lists and airport screening systems.

The reputation of the US intelligence services also took a hit because Abdulmutallab's father, a prominent Nigerian banker, had warned the CIA about his son's growing radicalization.

Despite stringent security measures at airports in the wake of the September 11, 2001 attacks, Abdulmutallab managed to smuggle 76 grams of the explosive Pentaerythritol tetranitrate on board the flight from Amsterdam. Luckily, the bomb hidden in his underwear failed to properly detonate and instead simply caused a fire as the plane began its descent to Detroit.

## Aruba Airport Authority N.V. has been shortlisted in the Routes Airport Marketing Awards – Regional Heats – Americas

*The winner and any highly commended airports will be announced on Monday 19th February, at the Networking Evening in Nassau-Bahamas*



ORANJESTAD - Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) has received notification that the Airport has been short-listed for The Routes Airport Marketing Awards, Regional Heats – Americas 2012 (this is different than the years before, when each airport was selected based on the amount of traffic and divided into several categories). The award ceremony will take place February 19 – 21, 2012 during the 5th annual Routes Regional Americas in Nassau, Paradise Island.

Aruba Airport Authority is short-listed among other airports such as Boston Logan International Airport, Curacao - Hato International Airport, Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, Fort Myers, Southwest Florida International Airport, Myrtle Beach Airport and Washington Dulles International Airport.

The uniqueness of the marketing awards is that only the airlines can vote for the airports and consider airports whose

marketing efforts during the last twelve (12) months have made a real impact on their future network development plans. Airlines consider the efficient and useful marketing activities of any airport on their network within the Americas region, irrespective of the size of the airport.

"We are very honored with this nomination" said Peter Steinmetz, CEO AAA. "It goes to show that our strategies and objectives during the past twelve months were appreciated and effective. Our commitment to our airline partners,

listening to their concerns during these continued economic troubling times and our proactive outreach to retain air service and diversification within specific areas have been noticed. We hope to announce next week that Aruba Airport has been named the winner in this category."



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## “Cocolishi” Building Ready for installing columns



ORANJESTAD -- About two weeks ago the ALBO NV Contractors poured the second foundation for the Cocolishi building, which is an integral part of the City Hall Building of Aruba.

This building will be a modern four story edifice. Last week the contractors began raising the columns upon which will support the stories. The construction of this structure forms part of the BoAruba program of the government.

The BoAruba program is an investment of the government on one hand to rejuvenate the “old” part of the island and on the other hand to serve as an impulse into the economy of our island. The project has 2 large components: 1. the renovation and expansion of the in-

frastructure; 2. an integral solution for the social aspect of our community. Several projects in the BoAruba program are currently in progress, to mention, the restoration and amplification of the Court House which is currently under construction; the Linear Park; and, the amplification of the City Hall Building and a brand new building which will also become a part of our Historic City Center.

The Daniel Leo Park will also be beautified. In the barrios there is also quite a bit of work being undertaken. Houses are being painted, films are being shown at night, street lights are being installed and so much more is going on...all are part of the BoAruba total program.

## Saying good bye to the Water Tanks on the wharf!

ORANJESTAD -- A familiar sight for more than half a century on the Oranjestad Wharf is about to disappear. Early Wednesday morning the process of the dismantling of the water tanks in the area at the entrance of the Oranjestad Wharf was begun. These tanks became part of the Valero Refinery outfit.

Contractors began the dismantling process while Minister of the Environment looked on. One of the four tanks will remain on the premises to supply water to the hotels. The walled fens will be moved back some to create a little more space for the streetcar project.

It is planned that the streetcars will turn around at this area to pick up cruise tourists who arrive on the cruise ships and who want to tour the downtown area. According to Minister Sievinger, the entire area will be developed to create space for taxis and tourbusses to collect visitors to the island.

It is expected that the dismantling will be com-



pleted very shortly so that the area can be developed in time for the arrival of the streetcars, which is expected to be inaugurated in December.

Government advisers are diligently working on a plan for a smooth flow of the traffic, especially a smooth flow of traffic entering the main road. They have also contemplated placing a round-about in front of the former DOW complex. The former DOW complex is slated to become the new Census Bureau. At the back of this building a four story parking garage is being planned.

The main road in front of

the Wharf will be renovated. According to the government, this work has already been delegated. The work of renovating this entire road has not begun as yet in view of other work being undertaken round and about the center of the city. This work is causing much disturbance to traffic and to our chauffeurs. In the upcoming days advertisements will be published requesting offers for the decorations of the areas in the main street. These decorations will entail everything except for the rails for the streetcars.

## Is there such a thing as safe sex....in Carnival to boot?

ORANJESTAD -- Apparently during Carnival there is a move to promote “safe sex” by handing out hundreds of free condoms to our youth. However, the consensus is that “safe sex” does not exist and certainly not during Carnival.

There are those who claim that the correct and consistent use of condoms can reduce certain risks. Advocates of the use of condoms claim that condoms can be effective against risks when they are stored properly, applied perfectly, removed perfectly and used consistently.

By consistent use they mean that...a condom must be used for every sexual act, from start

to finish. Now, do we really believe that this advice will be heeded during Carnival?

Research (National Institute for Health-2000) has proven that condoms are effective when used correctly and consistently. It reduces the risk of transmitting HIV by 85%.

It also reduces the risk of contracting or transmitting gonorrhea, which is one of the sexual diseases (mts) among men by 45 – 74%. There was no proof to indicate what percentage of risk this has on women.

Fact of the matter is, the use of condoms is NO 100% guarantee of protection, no matter

how perfectly and consistently condoms are used.

One of the reasons that condoms are being handed out during Carnival is to try and reduce teen pregnancy. Statistics in the US have shown that the yearly failure in the use of condoms among young women is between 14 and 23%. This means that for every 100 young women using a condom, between 14 to 23 of them end up becoming pregnant.

Parents have the responsibility to educate their children regarding sexual behavior. As a parent we want our children to be 100% protected.

*Continued on page 4*



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## Kia models Rio and Optima receive '2012 Drivers' Choice Awards' for Best Subcompact and Family Sedans from MotorWeek US

ORANJESTAD -- Since its launch in the auto market, the sprightly Kia Rio scored high among consumers, along with the Kia Optima, which is considered the crowning jewel of Kia Motors.

The Rio is the industry leader in fuel efficiency and power while offering consumers a provocative and luxurious auto. It is the recipient of 5 security stars from EuroNCap, the leading European organization handling with auto accidents.

Optima is a world class car with innovative technology making it smooth to maneuver. Its fuel efficiency is impressive and its ultra mod-

ern, comfortable interior is a winner among consumers.

MotorWeek is an American automotive television program which premiered in January of 1981. Now in its 31st season, MotorWeek is television's longest running and most respected automotive series, with the latest information on new models and all other aspects important to consumers when buying a car.

Since 1983, MotorWeek has presented its Drivers' Choice Awards, which are among the auto industry's most prestigious honors. The Drivers' Choice Awards are

unique for their consumer focus and represent the definitive list of best automotive picks in the most popular vehicle categories, including the coveted "Best of the Year" award. They are presented annually during the Chicago Auto Show.

This year, The Kia Optima has already won the Autobytel '2012 Sedan of the Year' and the Consumer Guide Awards '2012 Best Buy and Recommended Awards'. It also won ANCAP '5 Star Safety Rating' in December, 2011.

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## Cas Animal Cont'd Making a difference

"I think most of us look at a problem," observed annual island visitor Carol Beck, "and heaven knows the world has enough. However, we tell ourselves, 'I am just one person, what can I do? How can I make a difference?'" Well, all I can say, when we looked over a copy of THE MORNING NEWS during breakfast one day, and read the story of Kiki and what she is doing single-handedly for the stray and abused dogs of Aruba, we were in tears by the time we were half way through."

Not only were Carol and her husband Mark in tears, they were also determined to make a difference in the best way they could, by making a substantial donation to Foundation Cas Animal towards the construction of a proper no-kill facility for abandoned and abused dogs and cats on Aruba. This is the ultimate mission of Kiki Arndt, the founder, who has given up every other aspect of her life towards this cause. She had always cared for animals, coming to live on Aruba 15 years ago with 9 cats in tow, to discover two dogs abandoned by the owners of the house she had rented, still loyally waiting for their masters' return, starving and nearly dying of thirst. With this humane action of adopting the dogs she was set on the path that eventually came to consume her days.

"We called Kiki and she came to visit us at Costa Linda, where we own timesharing, and after talking to her and observing her determination, we knew that this is a person who makes a real difference," com-



Kiki with Mark and Carol Beck

mented the Becks. "She faces down all those that don't understand and criticize her concern for all dogs, especially the street mutts that they particularly believe don't matter. Seeing them around the beaches and town was a great disappointment for us, a drawback to our visits, and we are thrilled to learn there IS someone like her, dedicating her life to seeing a humane facility is built to relieve the problem."

The Becks were happy to do their share by making a substantial donation, sufficient to build 5 kennels that will comfortably accommodate 24 dogs; as soon as Kiki gets the permit to begin construction on land awarded her by the government, she will break

if one day you lose everything....



that day you will know how many real friends you have

ground. She has sold off nearly all her personal property to fund the project.

Kiki encourages all to consider adopting one of the nearly 100 dogs she now shelters in her home, among them 18 puppies ready to go. If you are interested in providing a good home, call her at 742-8732. You can also report an animal in need of assistance, as she maintains an Animal Ambulance to rescue them.

Her expenses for feeding all the dogs she has taken in are astronomical, as well as her veterinary bills. Help is appreciated by paying on her account at the Contreras Clinics in Shaba or Savaneta, or the Animal Care Clinic in Paradera, phone number 582-8382, as well as directly to the bank account of Cas Animal Foundation, CMB Bank account # 25762110. If you are not an island resident and wish to adopt a dog, Kiki will assist you in the process, as it is much easier to return to the U.S. with an Aruban dog than you might think, and any would be examined and certified by a qualified vet to pass quarantine standards.

by Rosalie Klein

## Safe sex...

Continued from page 2

The only 100% protection comes from total abstinence. Abstinence from sexual relations is the only, yes, the only 100% protection against all sexually transmitted diseases and against pregnancy! This is the only way to keep our children (your child) physically and spiritually pure.

Much has been, and will be again this year, the criticism regarding the handing out of condoms. The Morning News is of the opinion that, parents should see the condom action as neces-

sary for those kids whose parents have not and will not take the time to educate their children about sexual behavior. Hopefully, the condom action could save some of them from disaster. Our children (your child) should have no need of condoms because their parents, you, have given them the knowledge they need and the example and moral fiber to be different and to consider sex a gift from God reserved to be enjoyed responsibly and within the context of marriage.



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## Body searches will continue this weekend and for the rest of the Carnival period

ORANJESTAD -- The Ministry of Public Justice and the Aruba Police Force has informed the community that the police will continue to apply the legal preventive personal body searches; search clothing, pockets, vehicles, bags and handbags. This measure is not new to the Aruban public as the police have used this on more occasions as a control and preventive measure in certain areas. The goal is to ascertain whether there are illegal drugs or firearms on anyone's person. The measure proved very successful during the past weekend. Various arrests were made with several firearms and drugs confiscated by the police as a result of the body searches!

The police intend to apply the body search measure at

the following events:

- jouvert morning
- Carnival Parade in San Nicolaas
- Carnival Parade in Oranjestad

The police also remind us all that the "faya Bo haya" policy remains in effect, and if it results that the person has an outstanding unpaid traffic fine, the person will be arrested and incarcerated in the KIA jail immediately!

Our Police Force is working diligently to ensure the safety of the general public. They expect the community to understand and cooperate with all efforts by the police to maintain order and tranquility.

Everyone is responsible to do his/her part in contributing to a pleasant and safe Carnival



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## Salvatore and Michelle Mauro honored by the Aruba Tourism Authority



Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very special couple, Mr. Salvatore and Mrs. Michelle Mauro, as Ambassador of Goodwill of Aruba. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20 or more consecutive years. The honoring ceremony took place at the residence of Mr. Gerrit and Mrs.

Denise Koolman, dear friends for many years of the Mauro couple.

The Mauro's have been visiting Aruba since 1975, and that is when they met with Mr. Koolman at the than Holiday Inn Hotel, King International Casino. Since then they have become very good friends of the Koolman family and have been visiting the island every

year to meet with their Aruban friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Mauro also love to go to the beaches, enjoy our nice weather, the food, and the culture and diversity of the Island.

The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority in the presence of the Koolman family members and friends.



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**TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC**

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### EU MPs urge Dutch PM to speak up on anti-migrant site

STRASBOURG (AFP) - The European Parliament called on the Dutch prime minister yesterday to come and explain his "deafening silence" on a far right website allowing people to complain against east European immigrants.

The parliament, at the request of the conservative group, will debate the anti-immigrant website created by the Dutch Freedom Party (PVV) at its next plenary session on March 13.

"We especially call on the Dutch Prime Minister, Mark Rutte, to declare the position of his government on this issue and come before the European Parliament to explain his deafening silence on this issue," said Joseph Daul, chairman of the European People's Party, the parliament's biggest bloc.

The PVV backs the coalition government led by Rutte. The ambassadors of 10 eastern and central European nations have written to the Dutch government urging Rutte to condemn the website, but he has not done so.

"I am angered that anyone could attack fellow Europeans," Daul said. "It is against all European and indeed human values to attack a group of people in this way. It is reckless to encourage hate and discrimination."

In the Netherlands, Prime Minister Rutte, who has declined to condemn the website, told reporters he was set to meet European Parliament President Martin Schulz during the next European Council meeting on March 1.

"I am of course willing ... to address the issue" if Schulz wishes to do so, the Prime Minister said while repeating previous remarks that the web-

site belonged to a political party and not the Dutch government.

The Freedom Party, whose anti-Islamist leader Geert Wilders was acquitted of hate speech last year, last week launched the site entitled "Report Middle and Eastern Europeans".

Respondents can tick "yes" or "no" when asked whether they have experienced "nuisances" such as loud noise, parking, drunkenness, squalor or the loss of jobs to migrant workers from eastern European countries.

### Report: Amanda Knox book rights sold for \$4 mn



Amanda Knox

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Amanda Knox, who was acquitted last year of murdering her British roommate while studying in Italy, has sold the rights to her memoir for \$4 million, The New York Times reported yesterday.

The newspaper, citing people familiar with the negotiations, said that HarperCollins acquired the rights after a "heated auction among publishing houses that stretched for days."

The Times said several pub-

DAMASCUS (AFP) - At least 22 people died yesterday as Syrian armour moved on protest hubs, while prominent blogger Razan Ghazzawi and other top activists were arrested, monitors said ahead of a UN vote on the crisis.

President Bashar al-Assad's troops pummelled the central city of Homs for a 13th straight day, with 18 people killed in central Hama province and four others dying in the southern city of Daraa, the monitors reported.

A Daraa resident said regime forces were attacking the province "village by village."

"The (rebel) Free Syrian Army is trying to push them back but it is not equipped and is forced to retreat. Regime troops are taking revenge on

residents."

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group also said it fears security forces carried out a massacre in Daraa province, where dozens of civilians disappeared on Wednesday after being cornered in a valley.

"Witnesses said security forces shot at the civilians and then piled them onto pick-up trucks. Their fate is unknown," said the Observatory, which provided the names of 14 of those feared killed.

Regime forces were also shelling Homs, which has been under a relentless assault that has killed nearly 400 people since February 4, according to international rights watchdogs. Meanwhile Chinese Vice

Foreign Minister Zhai Jun said Beijing opposed armed intervention and forced "regime change" in Syria, before he heads to Damascus today to push for peace.

Activists are calling on Syrians to protest today for a "new phase of popular resistance" to confront the regime's assault on besieged cities such as Hama and Daraa.

Ahead of the General Assembly vote on what would be a non-binding resolution, Russia said it would not support the "unbalanced" measure, an informed source told Interfax news agency.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon appealed to the international community to agree on a response to end the violence.



An Egyptian protester holds a chain as he shouts slogans against ousted Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak outside the police academy in Cairo where his trial drew an end yesterday. The verdict in the trial of Mubarak will be announced on February 22, presiding judge Ahmed Refaat said. AFP PHOTO

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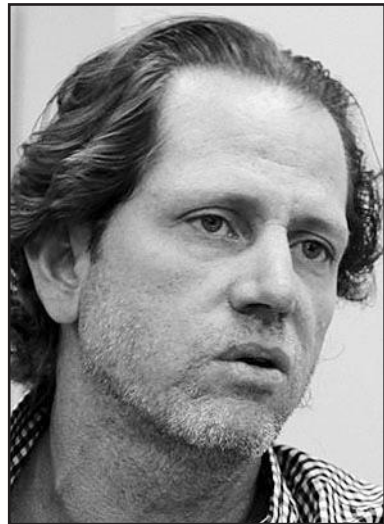
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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Panama grants asylum to Ecuador newspaper publisher



Carlos Eduardo Perez Barriga

PANAMA CITY (AFP) - Panama has granted asylum at its Quito embassy to Ecuadorian newspaper publisher Carlos Eduardo Perez Barriga, who faces prison after losing a libel suit filed by President Rafael Correa.

Panama "after considering the arguments presented in writing by Mr Perez Barriga, has looked upon his request for diplomatic asylum favorably," said a statement from the embassy released in Panama.

The request had been granted because there was "a reasonable fear for his personal security," the statement said.

Ecuador's top court earlier yesterday ruled against the El Universo newspaper in a libel

suit filed by Correa that was seen as a crucial test of press freedoms in the small South American country.

The National Court of Justice (CNJ) sentenced the three top executives of the media company to three years in prison and fined them \$40 million, denying an appeal as "out of order."

Correa sued the El Universo daily in March 2011 alleging "defamatory libel" over a column by former opinion page editor Emilio Palacio that accused the president of crimes against humanity.

Palacio suggested that a future president could take Correa before a criminal court for ordering the military to fire at its discretion on a hospital on September 30, 2010, during a police uprising.

A lower court judge ruled against the newspaper in July, handing down the \$40 million judgment and prison sentences against the paper's publisher, Carlos Perez, deputy directors Cesar Perez and Nicolas Perez, and Palacio, who fled to Miami. An appeals court upheld the sentence in September.

The case has been widely criticized by rights groups as a blow to freedom of speech in Ecuador and also calls into question the independence of the Ecuadorian courts.

### Hundreds flee Mogadishu clashes

MOGADISHU (AFP) - Hundreds of Somalis fled their homes yesterday fearing clashes after African Union troops attacked holdout Islamist Shebab militia positions on the outskirts of the war-ravaged capital Mogadishu.

Columns of loaded vehicles headed into the city from Elashabiyaha and KM13 districts outside Mogadishu, as AU forces moved into positions they seized from the Al-Qaeda-linked rebels this week after heavy fighting.

The neighbourhoods lie on the road to rebel-held Afgoye town, some 30 kilometers (19 miles) northwest of Mogadishu, which the AU forces

have said they also plan to attack.

"Hundreds of displaced people are returning to Mogadishu fearing fighting in the Afgoye corridor," Moalim Abudule, a district official, told reporters.

"We are receiving many of them here in Dharkinley district, but unfortunately we have no proper shelters to assist them."

Many Mogadishu residents had fled to the Afgoye area, which the UN says hosts the world's largest settlement for the displaced, in the wake of intense battles between the AU troops and the Al-Qaeda allied militia in recent years.

However, people are now fleeing Afgoye for fear of imminent attacks after the deputy head of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMI-SOM) said that troops would soon launch an assault as part of a drive to defeat the Shebab.

The UN declared camps in Afgoye and in Mogadishu to be famine zones last year, but this month it said the situation had improved.

The 10,000-strong AMI-SOM force has been fighting to secure Mogadishu, six months after the Shebab abandoned fixed bases there and resorted to guerrilla attacks including suicide and car bombings.

### Grim identification after Honduras prison fire



COMAYAGUA -- Relatives of inmates wait outside the National Prison in Comayagua, 90 km north of Tegucigalpa, on February 16, 2012. Honduras medics and international experts yesterday worked to identify the charred remains of inmates killed when fire swept through an overcrowded prison, killing more than 350 people. The devastating fire has led President Porfirio Lobo to suspend Honduras's top prison officials, including the corrections chief, as well as those at the Comayagua penitentiary, which held almost double its official inmate capacity. The Organization of American States in Washington said it was launching a probe into the blaze, and EU foreign affairs chief Catherine Ashton expressed her "great sorrow" over the disaster. (AFP PHOTO)

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## Health &amp; Living

# Roche issues counterfeit drug warning in US

(AFP) - Counterfeit versions of the cancer-fighting drug Avastin have been discovered in circulation in the United States, public health officials and the pharmaceutical company Roche warned.

"The counterfeit version of Avastin does not contain the medicine's active ingredient, bevacizumab, which may have resulted in patients not receiving needed therapy," the US Food and Drug Administration said in a statement.

Charlotte Arnold, spokeswoman for the Roche US-based unit Genentech, said that because the counterfeit lacks the active ingredient, "it's not safe or effective for use. It should not be used. We are still analyzing what is in the product. We know that there is no biological product in it."

In a related action, FDA said it had issued letters to 19 medical practices in the United States that purchased unapproved cancer medicines that may include the counterfeit Avastin.

The 19 medical practices purchased unapproved cancer medicines and, potentially, the counterfeit Avastin, from Quality Specialty Products (QSP), a foreign supplier that is also known as Montana Health Care Solutions.

The FDA asked QSP's US distributor in Tennessee to stop using any remaining products from the supplier.

Genentech said some of the counterfeit US lots are believed to be labeled as Avastin 400 mg/16 ml and have the serial numbers B86017, B6011 and B6010.

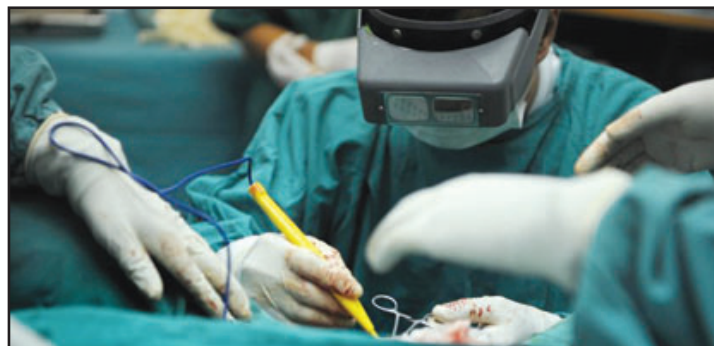
Genentech said the suspect batches differ from the official product, which is certified by the FDA. Genuine Avastin boxes are normally marked with six digit serial numbers and have no letters, stated the

company.

Avastin is among Roche's top-selling drugs with sales of 5.3 billion Swiss francs (\$5.8 billion, 4.4 billion euros) in 2011.

Last year, the FDA revoked the authorization of Avastin for breast cancer treatment, saying its effectiveness was not proven, but allowed it to remain on the market as an approved treatment for certain types of colon, lung, kidney and brain cancer.

## 10-hour surgery separates Brazilian conjoined twins



BRASILIA (AFP) - Brazil's conjoined twins Israel and Levi were separated successfully at Maternity Hospital of Goiania in a surgery that lasted nearly 10 hours, the twins' doctor told AFP.

The 14-month-old boys were joined at the hip and abdomen. They shared intestines, a bladder and genitalia, said pediatric surgeon Zacharias Calil, a specialist in separating conjoined twins.

"It was very difficult, very complicated but we managed (to separate them)," Calil said. The brothers "came through the surgery well."

Israel and Levi had four legs but their shared lower bodies made the surgery the second-most complicated for conjoined twins. Twins with shared skulls create the most

complex separation surgeries.

They traveled to the central Brazilian city of Goiania for the surgery from Fortaleza, capital of the northeastern state of Ceara.

The surgical team of about 30 doctors, technicians and nurses separated "the intestines, the urinary part, the hip and we rebuilt two bladders," said Calil, the team leader.

Preparations for the complicated surgery began when the twins were born in December 2010 as their mother received advice from a specialist.

In November, the family traveled to Goiania to begin the final phase before the operation, which involved using eight expanders to stretch the children's skin.

Calil said the expanders "were instrumental in closing the abdomen."

Now the children begin a complicated recovery stage in which specialists closely monitor the functioning of their organs and the emergence of possible infections, which could occur beginning the fifth day after the surgery.

Calil estimated Israel and Levi's chances of recovery at 50 percent. The surgery was the eighth time Calil separated conjoined twins.

The surgery cost about \$465,000, which was subsidized by the state government of Goias, the doctor said.

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## Russia sounds alarm over spiralling teenage suicides



(AFP)- Top Russian psychiatrists on Friday called for urgent measures to battle the soaring teenage suicide rate, one of the world's highest.

The number of 15 to 19-year-olds taking their own lives is almost three times higher than the world average at 19 to 20 per 100,000, the health ministry's chief psychiatrist Zurab Kekelidze told a round table in Moscow.

Four thousand teenagers commit suicide every year, Russia's presidential ombudsman for children, Pavel As-takhov, said Thursday.

Kekelidze said psychology must be taught in schools to help children resolve their problems by and also called on the Russian Orthodox Church to extend support to disturbed youths.

"We have developed a programme and very soon ...start implementing it," Kekelidze said, cited by the RIA Novosti news agency.

He also denounced controversial Internet forums that advise on the different ways

of committing suicide.

Boris Polozhy, one of the main doctors at Moscow's Serbsky Centre psychiatric hospital said: "The situation is extremely bad in our country."

This week, two teenage girls jumped together off the roof of an apartment building in the town of Lobnya in the Moscow region in the third such double suicide in Russia since October.

On Friday investigators said they were looking into the death of a 12-year-old boy, who hung himself on a horizontal bar at his home in Siberia's Krasnoyarsk region.

Russia now has the world's third highest rate of suicides among adolescents, according to UNICEF and the Russian health ministry.

Since the turbulent 1990s, the country saw an overall fall in the number of suicides, with statistics showing a decline from 42 suicides per 100,000 people to 23.5 suicides between 1995 and 2010.

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## Sci-Tech

# Scientists debate bird flu studies at WHO

GENEVA (AFP) - Scientists met behind closed doors in Geneva Thursday to discuss whether controversial research on a mutant form of bird flu capable of being spread among humans can be made public.

The two-day gathering at the World Health Organization (WHO) was called to discuss the studies on the H5N1 virus which international scientists halted on January 20, citing fears of devastation if it were to escape the laboratory.

The WHO is expected to report on any decision made at the meeting late Friday.

The 22 participants include the two teams of researchers and representatives of the scientific journals Science and Nature who were asked to withhold publication.

"Participants will discuss the specific circumstances and results of the two studies and will try to reach a consensus about practical actions to resolve the most urgent issues,

particularly those related to access to and dissemination of the results of these research studies," the WHO said.

Avian influenza H5N1 is primarily transmitted between birds and very rarely to humans.

Two separate teams of researchers, one in the Netherlands and the other in the United States, found ways late last year to engineer the virus so that it could be transmitted among mammals.

The breakthrough raised alarm that the method could fall into the wrong hands and unleash a massive flu pandemic that could cost millions of lives.

In November the US National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) urged that key details remain unpublished.

Flu researchers agreed in January to halt their studies for 60 days in order to allow for international debate on the matter.

# New York's 'once-a-century' storms to become common: study

PARIS (AFP) - Massive storm surges that statistically threaten New York City once a century could occur at intervals from three to 20 years by 2100, according to estimates by US scientists said.

Researchers from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Princeton University built a computer model that simulated tens of thousands of storms under different scenarios for global warming.

In the model, intense storms become more frequent by the period from 2081 to 2100, a finding that backs previous research, they found.

Warmer temperatures drive up sea levels through thermal expansion and also provide the raw fuel for hurricanes.

Today a "100-year" land-

falling storm causes a flood surge of about two metres (more than six feet) in New York. By 2100, this could occur at intervals of just three to 20 years, according to the paper.

An apocalyptic flood, bringing a surge of three metres (10 feet), that today has a risk of occurring once every five centuries would occur statistically every 25 to 240 years.

Both kinds of events would easily top Manhattan's present sea walls, which stand 1.5 metres (nearly five feet), the investigators noted.

The highest surge flood recorded in New York was in 1821 and measured 3.2 metres (10.4 feet), according to the probe, published in the journal Nature Climate Change.

## Apple unveils preview of new Mac operating system



(AFP) - Apple released a preview version of its new Macintosh operating system on Thursday, bringing some features of the iPad to the personal computer.

The Cupertino, California-based company said the updated operating system, called Mountain Lion, will be available to Macintosh developers immediately and Mac owners can upgrade to the new software in late summer.

Apple said Mountain Lion includes a new Messages ap-

plication which replaces iChat and allows a user to send unlimited messages, photos and video from a Mac to another Mac or a device running iOS software such as the iPad or iPhone.

It also includes integration with Twitter allowing users to sign in and tweet directly from Safari, Photo Booth and third-party applications, Apple said.

Game Center allows for live multiplayer games to be played across iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch devices.

Mountain Lion is the first Mac operating system built with the Internet "cloud" in mind, Apple said.

"More than 100 million users have iCloud accounts, and Mountain Lion makes it easier than ever to set up iCloud and access documents across your devices," Apple said.

A new security feature

called Gatekeeper protects the computer against malicious software by giving the user control over what applications can be installed and downloaded, Apple said.

With AirPlay Mirroring, a Mac user can wirelessly send video from a Mac to an HDTV using Apple TV.

Apple chief executive Tim Cook told The Wall Street Journal in an interview that the new Macintosh operating system takes advantage of features popular on the iPad and iPhone.

"We see that people are in love with a lot of apps and functionality here," Cook said of the iPhone. "Anywhere where that makes sense, we are going to move that over to Mac."

Apple sold 5.2 million Macs last quarter.



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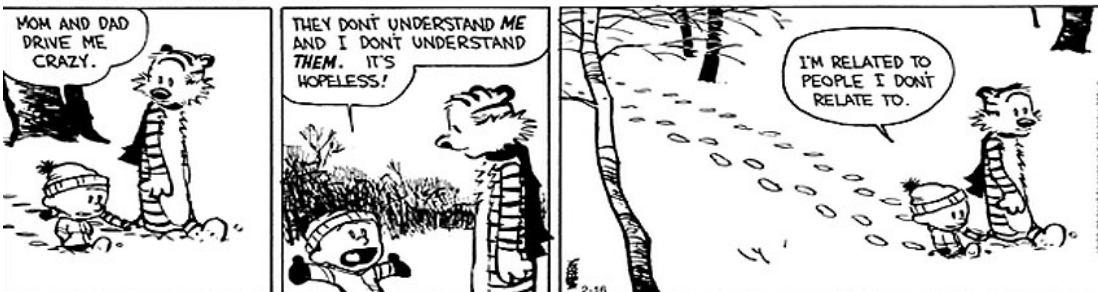
## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBS



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## WINDOW SHOPPING

## ACROSS

1. Concoction
5. Carnaby Street compliment
8. Insulting remark
12. Lover of Radames
13. Biblical warrior
15. Sub's kin
16. Dead end
18. "Render therefore — Caesar..." (Matthew 22:21)
19. However
20. Recipient of many unhappy returns
21. Splash
23. Emulate
25. Part of AC: abbr.

## DOWN

26. Darwin subject
29. Scrutinize
33. Of wings
34. Mimes
35. Titan of mythology
37. Aug. follower
38. Cpl. or sgt.
39. owl
40. Tile-layer's calculation
41. Shortly
42. Aspect
43. Buttermilk's stablemate
45. Emulate Miss Otis
46. Japanese drama
47. College figures
49. British soldier in 1776
53. Cold cubes
54. Glide on snow
57. Olive genus
58. Elms, e.g.
61. Ledge

## ACROSS

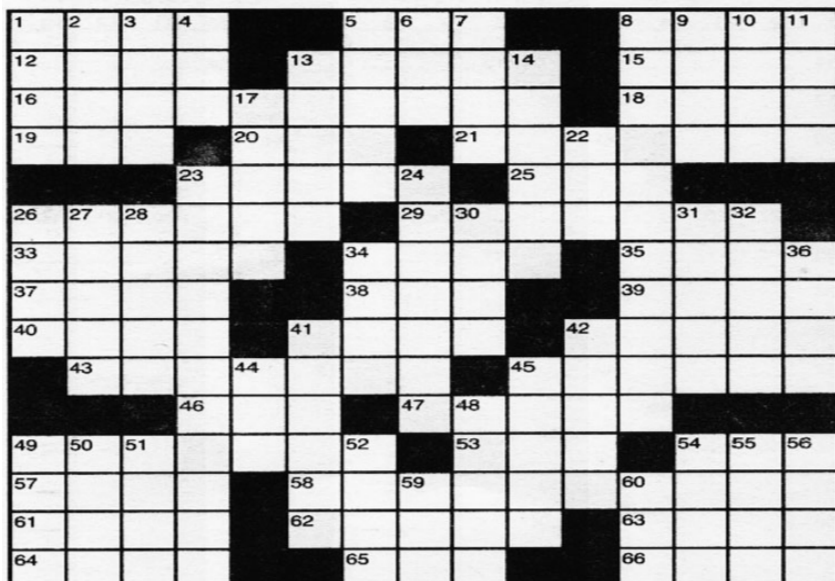
62. Audacious person
63. Prefix meaning "all"
64. Work for commission
65. Neither's partner
66. Orts

## DOWN

1. Jennifer's "Dirty Dancing" role
2. Stir up
3. Work on a rough draft
4. Pale
5. Treacherous
6. Glutton's preferred share
7. Hive dwellers
8. Amateur photographers
9. Gave for a time
10. Comic

## ACROSS

11. "Folk" (Dostoevsky)
13. Menu
14. Detour
17. Nin work
22. Jungfrau or Weisshorn
23. Thespians' post-production honor
24. Parachutist's lifesaver
26. Astronauts' gp.
27. Medic bracelet
28. Make narrower
30. Sign gas
31. Eames design
32. Like Hemingway's style
34. Poet Bradstreet
36. Flying without
41. Horrified
42. "The Thief's Journal" author
44. Muck
45. Heart, at times
48. Duck variety
49. Betsy or Diana
50. Nobel list
51. Romantic novelist Ethel
52. "The Blue Line"
54. Truck stop sight
55. Scud Stud Arthur
56. Mother of Horus
59. "Long Tomorrow" (1971 film)
60. Bungle



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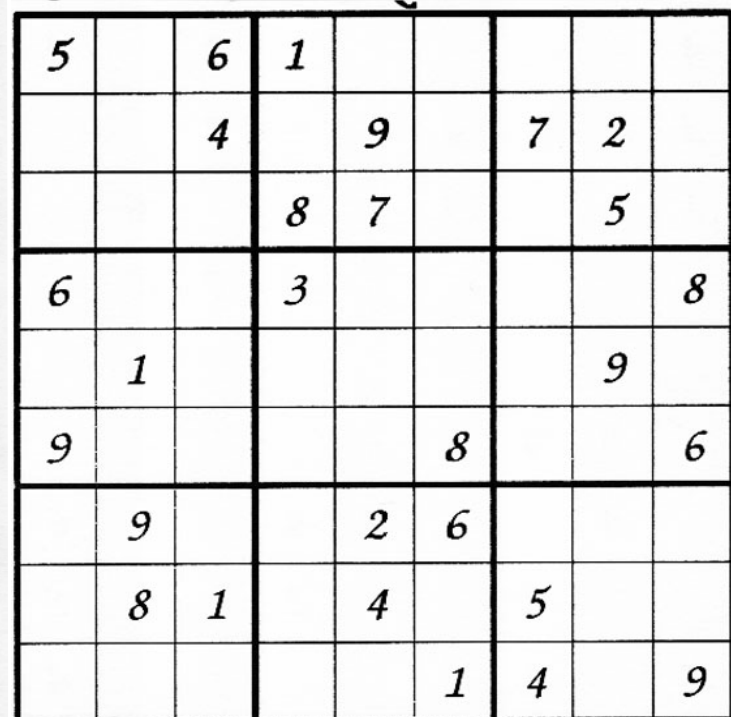
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## Sudoku



## SOLUTION

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Z	9	S	E	P	6	I	8	L
L	I	8	9	Z	S	E	6	P
9	P	E	8	I	Z	L	S	6
S	6	Z	9	P	8	I	E	
8	L	I	6	S	E	Z	P	9
E	S	9	P	L	8	6	Z	I
I	Z	L	S	6	9	P	E	8
P	8	6	Z	E	I	9	L	S

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



## Finance

# Dutch minister moots Greece aid deal after April polls

THE HAGUE (AFP) - The Dutch finance minister said yesterday the Greek crisis was "back to square one" as the country's economy was much worse than had been expected at the beginning of the crisis.

"We're back to square one," Jan Kees de Jager told a parliamentary committee in The Hague. "Greece is in a much worse state than had been anticipated at the time."

Eurozone leaders for several weeks have been negotiating Greece's desperately-needed rescue package of 130 billion euros in fresh loans and a write-down on privately-held government bonds worth 100 billion euros to avoid defaulting on debt owed on March 20.

Eurozone government sources said yesterday that the rescue would still be insufficient to meet a debt reduction target to make the country's steep repayments sustainable in 2020.

De Jager said that Athens still had not taken all the mea-

sures required to secure the package. "We will approve it only if all the necessary measures are taken," he warned.

The minister also said that an exit from the eurozone would cost other European countries more than saving the country's economy now.

"The goal is to keep Greece in the eurozone," he told Dutch MPs.

In an interview with influential Dutch financial daily Het Financieele Dagblad earlier yesterday, De Jager warned that payment of aid funds to Greece may be delayed until after its April elections, as the eurozone wants assurance that any new Greek government would keep its promises.

"Ideally after the elections, you want to deal with rulers that you know will give their support to the package," he said.

"Therefore it has been suggested to wait until after the elections, where you can agree

to commitments with the new government," he said.

Eurozone leaders also want more Greek leaders to commit to meeting the conditions required by public creditors the IMF, the EU and the ECB.

Asked if he expected more signatories before April polls, De Jager said: "Our confidence has reached an all-time low."

De Jager said the Netherlands wants Greece to start implementing the key elements of the package before giving clearance for the release of bailout funds.

"With that, we don't even have to wait for the elections," he said.

He added an expected debt sustainability analysis by the IMF was also "of huge importance."

"I don't understand why this is not important to some of my colleagues," he said adding "if you lend money to a country, then you do want to know what the chances are that you would get it back."

In Brussels, a senior official told AFP yesterday that a report given to finance ministers showed Greece's total public debt would only fall to 129 percent of Gross Domestic Product, instead of the 120 percent set as a condition for fresh aid by the EU and International Monetary Fund.

## GM books record profit

NEW YORK (AFP) - General Motors yesterday announced it made a record profit last year, as sales growth in the United States and China helped the Detroit firm snatch back the title of world's biggest automaker from Toyota.

Underscoring its return to rude health -- just two years after needing a massive government bailout and being dragged through a humiliating bankruptcy -- GM executives said more profits were on the way.

GM's full-year profit soared by 62 percent in 2011 to reach \$7.6 billion, beating expectations and breaking records for the century-old firm.

The profits appeared to provide further evidence of the success of President Barack Obama's controversial bailout for GM and Chrysler worth roughly \$80 billion.

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**GAZA CITY--** Palestinians are seen queuing with jerry cans at a petrol station in Gaza City yesterday. Gaza's sole power plant ground to a halt after it ran out of diesel, an energy authority official said, calling on Egypt to intervene to resolve the crisis. (AFP PHOTO)

## Mexico posts 3.9% GDP growth for 2011

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - Mexico's economy, the second largest in Latin America, grew 3.9 percent last year, slowing from 5.5 percent growth in 2010, national statistics institute INEGI said yesterday.

Agriculture, cattle farming and fishing largely contributed to the slowdown, posting negative growth of 0.6 percent compared with a 2.8 percent expansion in 2010, according to INEGI.

The agricultural sector suffered the worst drought in seven decades in 2011, which

was expected to contribute to further losses this year.

Mining and industry saw growth of 3.8 percent in 2011, compared with 6.1 percent the previous year, while the business and services sector posted 4.2 percent growth, down from 5.5 percent in 2010.

The government had predicted GDP growth of around four percent in 2011, taking into account the expected impact of the global economic crisis.

The central bank predicts 3.5 percent growth in 2012.

## US jobs, factory data strengthen growth outlook

WASHINGTON - The number of Americans filing for new jobless benefits fell to a near four-year low last week and factory activity in the Mid-Atlantic area grew in February, more evidence of sustained momentum in the economy.

The economic outlook was brightened further by other data yesterday showing builders breaking more ground on new residential projects in January, pointing to signs of life in the distressed housing market.

The reports added to a raft of solid data that now has analysts expecting only a mild slowdown in growth in the first quarter. Economists also have dialed down their expectations for another round of bond-buying or quantitative easing by

the Federal Reserve.

"The numbers add to the belief that the economy is shifting gears. There is just no number that is giving us a whole lot of trouble, except for consumer spending," said Joel Naroff, chief economist at Naroff Economic Advisors in Holland, Pennsylvania.

Initial claims for state unemployment benefits dropped 13,000 to a seasonally adjusted 348,000, the lowest level since March 2008, the Labor Department said.

Economists had forecast claims rising to 365,000. The four-week average of new claims, seen as a better measure of labor market trends, fell 1,750 to 365,250 - the lowest since April 2008.

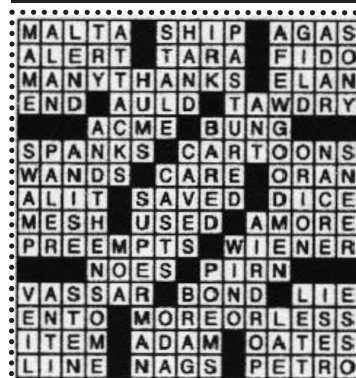


Current as of:  
02/16/2012

Current as of: 02/16/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.75	1.77	1.79
Britiaain	GBP	2.72	2.77	2.83
Switzerland	CHF	191.37	192.09	192.89
Netherlands	EUR	229.12	231.22	233.54
Sweden	SEK	25.27	25.99	26.79
Denmark	DKK	30.14	30.86	31.66
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## YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer



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# SHOULD HISTORY BE PART OF OUR FUTURE?

## On the seventieth anniversary of the attack on the Lago refinery



kustbatterij-juanamorto



— On any given day of the week, many locals and tourists alike, see their journey across the island ending on top of Sero Colorado, the easternmost tip of the island. From this point, most of the time they may enjoy a splendid view of the Venezuelan coastline, just about 15 miles away.

Some leave their vehicle behind there to hike to the well hidden natural bridge at the foot of the hill. Other than that, apparently there is not much to be seen at the site. Or, is there more? Every now and then a local person may be asked by a curious tourist, what those peculiar circular concrete platforms on top of the hill are, or were. Regretfully, most of our citizens do not know themselves

that these concrete structures represent a very important part of our recent history, namely the dark days of World War II, that would not go unnoticed to this tiny part of the Western Hemisphere. On these platforms, some huge cannons were installed, able to cover with its shells the main part of the strait between Aruba and the Paraguana peninsula. Another cannon was installed at Yuana Morto, known as the “Kustbatterij”. Actually, the guns at Sero Colorado and Yuana Morto, together with an outlook on top of Sero Alejandro, formed the principal defense against expected attacks from the German navy on the refinery, for its importance to the allied forces. To be able to con-

tribute to that defense, a local military force was instituted under the name “Schutterij”, in which many of the young local men of those days participated, along with British, and later on American personnel.

On February 16, 1942, the long expected attack finally came. A German U-boat started launching torpedoes at the tankers in and in the neighborhood of the refinery harbor, and tried to cause damage to the refinery itself by shelling the premises. Fortunately, no great damage was caused to the refinery itself, but at sea the consequences were severe. Four Lago tankers, the Oranjestad, Pedernales, San Nicolas and Tia Juana, were hit by torpedoes and sunk, while the attack took a total of 47 lives among the crew of the ships involved. A couple of days later, a torpedo launched by the German U-boat ended on shore at Eagle, where the effort of dismantling the artifact took four more lives of Dutch military, when the torpedo exploded.

Curiously enough, this latter incident remained more known by the general public as a part of our recent history than the attack on the refinery, which without any doubt may be booked as the largest catastrophe in our history, with the highest number of lives lost.

As a consequence of the attack, most of the population living in the vicinity of the refinery fled to more inland located neighborhoods, where they remained for weeks, sleeping in and around the dwellings of those living there, sharing food and other items in those days of great scarcity because of the war.

Fortunately enough, the German navy would prove unable from that moment on to launch another attack on Aruba, and the refinery continued to contribute greatly to the Allied Forces' need for fuel, specifically aviation fuel, providing at times up to 80% of the aviation gasoline consumed by the joint forces against Germany and Japan.

The historic sites which could tell us about this part of our past, today have no sign whatsoever that makes its visitors aware of the events that took place so many years ago, where not only Arubans were involved,



Sero Colorado

but also all the nationalities working and living here, as military or refinery workers, who shared those rough days to follow, always fearing the next attack, enduring the food shortages and other hardship toward the end of the war, so disastrous to the entire world.

As this historic date – February 16 – is approaching again, when it will be exactly seventy years ago that Aruba lived its scariest moments and with an unprecedented loss of human life, shouldn't we do more about it than we have been doing until now. Shouldn't we give this spot on top of the hill, visited by thousands of locals and tourists alike, something to give its visitors to remember this moment of shared continental history? Apart from the consideration that we have a task educating our own people about their history, aren't we observing a changing trend in tourism worldwide, where more and more visitors are not only interested in sun, beach, good food and entertainment, but wish to know more about that particular country, its history and its culture? How many of our historic sites have any sign, telling visitors what is worth knowing about that particular place? We should really ask ourselves if history, for the sake of the generations to come, can and should be part of our future. Apart from the educational aspect toward our own people, it will also make good economic sense toward hundreds of thousands of visitors who come to our island each year.

At this particular moment, when Aruba may need to reinvent itself economically, in the event of the loss of the re-

finery, would it not be appropriate to combine what is educationally correct with what would make good economic sense? Let us give this site, which symbolizes the one and only place on the American continent attacked during the entire World War, the spot it deserves amongst ourselves, and taking into account the interest among our visitors also.

*Note: a word of appreciation to Adolf Kock, Edric Croes, Evert Bongers, Samuel Ramada and Jorge Ridderstaat for their contributions and supply of photographic material.*



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## Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up

and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples.



Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,



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rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: [www.goldcoastaruba.com](http://www.goldcoastaruba.com) to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.

## Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger

Expatriates residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu.

"You never get a second chance to make a



Rosie and Aaron love their Burger too



Gouda Burger 2

first impression," comments Aaron; and upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers—the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

Prices vary only slightly between regular and small (basically 2 patties or 1) with specialty items such as Gouda Burger, Farmer's Burger, Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with crispy onion rings and BBQ sauce. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato... whatever the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are made from hand-cut fresh Idaho potatoes, is enough to

be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way—with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe batter-dipped gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner — daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for the owners when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island. Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit



## SPORTS

## Golf: Whiteford, Canizares share lead in Avantha Masters



Peter Whiteford of Scotland on day one of the Avantha Masters 2012

GURGAON (AFP) - Peter Whiteford of Scotland and Spain's Alejandro Canizares left fancied opponents behind to take the lead after the opening round of the \$2.4 million Avantha Masters on Thursday.

The duo both shot six-under par 66 to head the leaderboard in India's richest golf event, tri-sanctioned by the European and Asian Tours and the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI).

Federico Colombo of Italy was one shot behind as players battled a wind-swept course at the DLF Golf and Country Club on the outskirts of New Delhi.

Thailand's Kiradech Aphibarnrat and Thongchai Jaidee were bunched in fourth place on 68 alongside four other players, including the French duo of Jean-Baptiste Gonnet and Gregory Havret.

Two-time Major winner John Daly, who finished seven-over par 79 with six bogeys and one birdie, later tweeted he had suffered an elbow injury and is likely to miss the rest of the tourna-

ment.

"Came down on my second shot and there was a root buried -- elbow snapped -- so ticked about this," Daly wrote. "No bones are broken, possible torn ligaments according to European Tour docs."

"Getting home to see a specialist asap."

The 29-year-old Canizares, looking for his first win since 2006, was delighted after he birdied the 18th hole to join Whiteford in the lead.

"It's always nice to finish on a high like that," he said. "I didn't hit a great wedge shot into the green so it was nice to sink the putt."

"I played very steady and I putted quite nicely. The only mistake I made was missing a short putt on the seventh so I made a bogey. I had a couple of wayward drives but nothing serious and I felt very comfortable."

"Hopefully I can keep this going and be in contention going into the final round," said Canizares.

Whiteford, who was one-under par at the turn, birdied

four in a row from the 10th to shoot to the top of the board.

"It was the first time I've hit the fairways in months," said the 31-year-old Scot, chasing his first European Tour title. "I probably did not hit that many fairways, but it felt a lot better."

"I hit a lot more drivers than people usually do out there and just took advantage of the course and bully it a little. It can bite you easily though if you're not careful."

**First-round leaders at the par-72 DLF Golf and Country Club:**

66 - Alejandro Canizares (ESP), Peter Whiteford (SCO)

67 - Federico Colombo (ITA)

68 - Himmat Rai (IND), Jean-Baptiste Gonnet (FRA), Thongchai Jaidee (THA), Jamie Donaldson (WAL), Kiradech Aphibarnrat (THA), Gregory Havret (FRA).

69 - Vivek Bhandari (IND), Peter Uihlein (USA), Scott Jamieson (SCO), Oscar Floren (SWE), Marcel Siem (GER), Andrea Pavan (ITA), Anirban Lahiri (IND), Jeev Milkha Singh (IND), Marcus Fraser (AUS).

70 - Chapchai Nirat (THA), Paul McGinley (IRL), Rhys Davies (WAL), Mithun Perera (SRI), Shamim Khan (IND), Joost Luiten (NED), Berry Henson (USA), Scott Barr (AUS), Marcus Both (AUS), George Murray (SCO), Soren Hansen (DEN), Jbe Kruger (RSA), Mardan Mamat (SIN), Ignacio Garrido (ESP)

**Selected scores:**

76 - Todd Hamilton (USA)

79 - John Daly (USA)

## NBA: Lin to assist teammate in Dunk Contest - report

NEW YORK (AFP) - New Asian-American NBA superstar Jeremy Lin will find his way into the NBA All-Star Game weekend as a Slam Dunk Contest assistant to New York Knicks teammate Iman Shumpert, ESPN reported on Thursday.

The NBA announced on Thursday that Shumpert, Minnesota's Derrick Williams, In-

diana's Paul George and Houston's Chase Budinger will compete in the event on February 25 on the eve of the NBA All-Star Game in Orlando, Florida.

The move puts Lin, a seldom-seen bench-warmer two weeks ago who became a hero when forced into a starting role, into the NBA's signature weekend even though only in

a back-up role.

The news comes after Lin passed out a career-best 13 assists in a 100-85 victory over Sacramento on Wednesday, helping the Knicks win their seventh game in a row in his sixth start since he was inserted into the lineup.

Blake Griffin of the Los Angeles Clippers will not return to defend his dunk crown from last year, which included leaping over the hood of a car before slamming the ball into the basket.

Lin, a 23-year-old point guard, has incited "Lin-sanity" in his rise to fame and helped the NBA win back fans who might have been turned away by a lockout last year that has reduced the current season from 82 to 66 games per club.



### Lunch Buffet

Saturday - Sunday

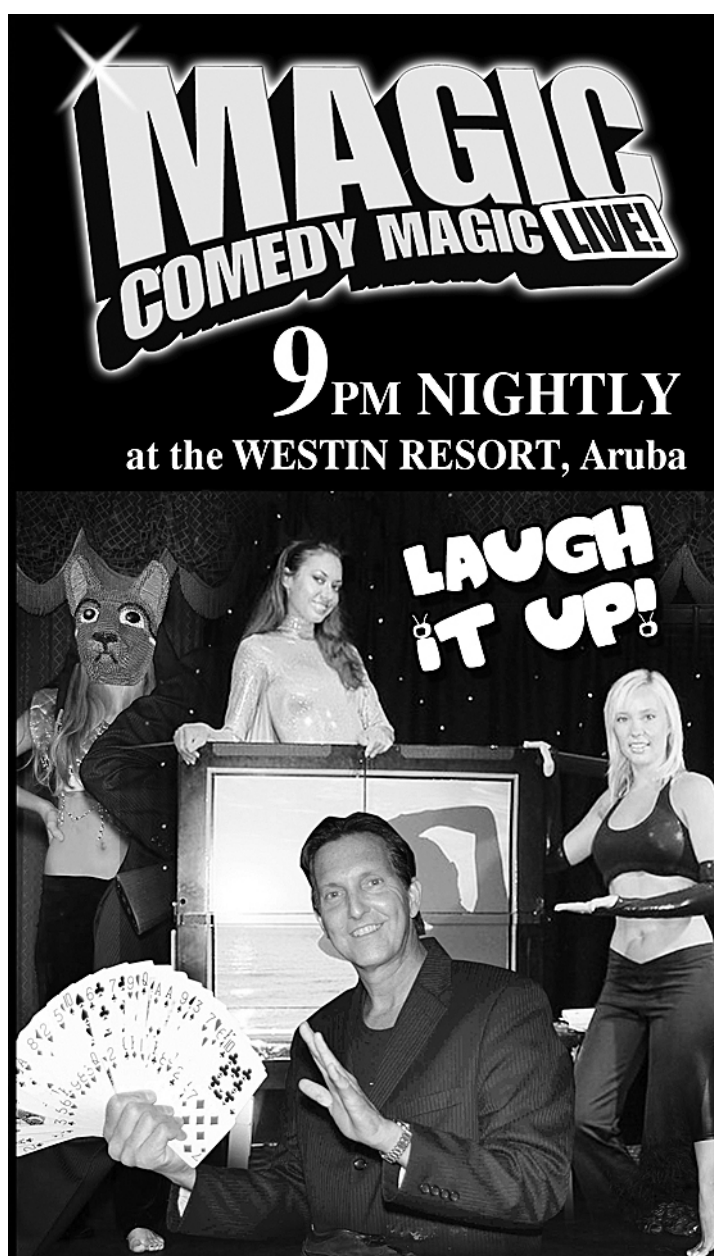
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2. "Picks of the day and week" will appear in THE MORNING NEWS
3. Contest begins today and deadline for submissions of photos is Monday, February 20, 2012 at 6:00 PM; drawing for raffle will take place on Ash Wednesday, February 22.
4. Judging is final; winners will be announced in Friday's paper, February 24.
5. Each photo submission earns a raffle ticket towards the Ash Wednesday drawing

**Prizes for the Carnival photo Contest:**

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Prize winners will receive additional raffle tickets towards final drawing, and a special surprise for the grand prize winning photo.

No purchase necessary to participate; subscription to THE MORNING NEWS and submission of photos are free; photos will only be used for Carnival promotion and owners retain all rights.

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## Football: Advantage United as Ajax downed



**Manchester United's Mexican player Javier Hernandez (top) vies with Ajax Amsterdam's Toby Alderweireld**

AMSTERDAM (AFP) - Manchester United made a winning start to their Europa League debut on Thursday after goals from Ashley Young and Javier Hernandez handed them a 2-0 first leg victory over Ajax at the Amsterdam Arena.

Young, who has only recently returned to action following a lengthy injury lay-off, struck United's first on 59 minutes before Hernandez added the second five minutes from time to give the English champions a commanding advantage.

Ferguson said Hernandez' late strike had given United a golden chance to advance to the last 16.

United had found themselves in European football's second-tier tournament following their shock failure to qualify for the knockout stages of the Champions League last December.

However Ferguson stayed true to his pre-match pledge to take the competition seriously, naming a strong starting XI to face the four-time European champions.

A low-key first half saw

United dominate possession and territory in the opening 20 minutes without seriously testing Kenneth Vermeer in the Ajax goal.

Wayne Rooney was at the heart of United's best work, and had the English champions' first shot on goal after 19 minutes only for Vermeer to gather easily.

Moments later Rooney's weighted through ball helped Hernandez spring the Ajax off-side trap but Vermeer was alert to the danger and was able to smother at the Mexican's feet.

Hernandez had taken up a dangerous position in the Ajax box on 29 minutes as Nani ghosted down the right wing. To the visible exasperation of Ferguson on the touchline however, Nani went for goal, shooting high and wide.

On 32 minutes United were almost made to pay for their wastefulness, with Siem De Jong uncorking a ferocious right foot shot from just outside the area which drew a superb diving save from David De Gea.

That effort lifted Ajax, and they had United on the back foot towards the end of the first half, with young Dane Christian Eriksen the next to test de Gea,

with a swerving long-range effort.

On the stroke of half-time, Ajax had penalty appeals waved away by Italian referee Gianluca Rocchi after Rio Ferdinand appeared to collide with Miralem Sulejmani right on the edge of the area.

United regrouped after the break and were soon threatening the Ajax goal. Another perfectly weighted pass from Rooney split the Dutch side's defence and found Hernandez, but the striker was unable to get a shot off.

Yet on 59 minutes United got the goal their bright start to the half had been threatening to deliver.

Nani's cross from the right flew across the penalty area and found Young on the opposite flank. The winger cut in and picked his spot before rifling his low finish beneath Vermeer and into the net.

With full-time looming Antonio Valencia pounced on a stray pass in midfield and released Hernandez. The Mexican fed Rooney and then gathered the England player's return to make it 2-0 and leave United with one foot in the last 16.





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## Tennis: Azarenka sweeps into Qatar quarters

DOHA (AFP) - World number one Victoria Azarenka swept into the quarter-finals of the Qatar Open with a swift demolition of Romanian Simona Halep on Thursday as Lucie Safarova claimed another top scalp.

Belarusian Azarenka, the Australian Open champion, won 10 games in a row on the way to beating the 63rd-ranked Halep 6-3, 6-1, while Safarova, who had knocked out the second seed Caroline Wozniacki on Wednesday, sent former US and French Open champion and 14th seed Svetlana Kuznetsova packing with a 7-6 (8/6), 6-3 victory.

Kuznetsova was the 12th of the 16 seeds in the 64-player draw to crash out of the event



over the first four days.

Halep produced only brief moments of brilliance to secure a break in either set, but that was not enough to quell Azarenka, who stepped up her game after trailing 3-1 in the first set and raced to victory thereafter.

"I started slow but I am glad I turned it around," said Azarenka, the first Belarusian to win a Grand Slam tournament and take the world number one ranking.

She could have won the second set at love, but suffered a glitch in the sixth game when she was broken by the Romanian.

But Azarenka broke back in the next game to clinch the issue.

"I kept my composure," said Azarenka, who will now meet Belgian Yanina Wickmayer in the quarter-finals. Wickmayer defeated Kazakhstan's Ksenia Pervak 6-4, 6-0.

"I never played her before. It was about adjusting a little bit to her game style. I don't think I really played the right way those first three games, four games.

Azarenka was once again asked whether being the winner of a Grand Slam title made her a more 'legitimate' world number one, but she shrugged off the question.

"I think you guys, it's your

job to say that, to evaluate, to give grades. Our job is to play and win matches. That's my job," she said.

Poland's Agnieszka Radwanska fought back from a break down to advance to the last eight with a 7-5, 6-1 win over the USA's Varvara Lepchenko.

Radwanska, the world number six and fourth seed in Qatar, was too strong for the Uzbek-born Lepchenko who is yet to win a WTA title after turning pro as a 15-year-old way back in 2001.

"I lost my serve in the first set and at that point the only thing I wanted was to fight back," said Radwanska, the winner of seven titles and a quarter-finalist at the Australian Open.

"She was hitting the ball well, but I got my game together," added Radwanska who won three games in a row after trailing 4-5 in the first set.

Meanwhile, Australian third seed Samantha Stosur ousted the Czech Republic's Petra Cetkovska 6-3, 6-2, but Israeli Shahar Peer's quest for a first title in the Middle East ended prematurely.

Peer, whose participation in events in the Gulf has often generated a furore, was beaten 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 by the USA's Christina McHale.

## Tennis: Berdych joins Federer with easy advance in Rotterdam

ROTTERDAM (AFP) - Tomas Berdych followed the example of top seed Roger Federer by making almost effortless progress into the quarter-finals of the Rotterdam Open on Thursday as opponent Marcos Baghdatis quit while trailing 3-0 in their second-round match.

Berdych spent just 19 minutes on court but put the former Australian Open finalist under immediate pressure with five break points.

On Wednesday, Federer moved easily into the last eight at the Ahoy stadium as second-round opponent Mikhail Youzhny withdrew a day before their contest with a left foot injury.

Federer still had to go out and win his opening match against Frenchman Nicolas Mahut, which he did, 6-4, 6-4.

Federer and Berdych set the pace for number three seed and Rotterdam debutant Juan Del Potro, with the Argentine 2009 US Open champion to face Slovak Karol Beck later in a bid for the quarters.

Frenchman Richard Gasquet, seeded fifth, continued his steady progress at his second tournament appearance, defeating Russian Alex Bogomolov 6-3, 6-2.



Italy's Andreas Seppi dispatched German Philipp Kohlschreiber 6-4, 6-2 in their second-round encounter.

The 16th-ranked Gasquet improved his record to seven wins this season to next face Russian Niklay Davydenko.

The Frenchman with six career titles went through to victory in just over an hour and a quarter with four aces and four breaks of the Bogomolov serve.

"I'm happy to win in two sets and get into the quarters," said the winner who lost in his first Rotterdam appearance in the 2009 first round.

His quarter-final with Davydenko is a repeat of the match he won this month in Montpellier, running his record over the veteran Russian to four wins in five encounters.

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